2015 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 39

June 2, 2015 –Introduced by Senators CARPENTER, VINEHOUT, RISSER, HARRIS DODD, BEWLEY, ERPENBACH, C. LARSON, RINGHAND, WIRCH and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives SPREITZER, ZAMARRIPA, SARGENT, BOWEN, BROSTOFF, GENRICH, BARCA, GOYKE, C. TAYLOR, MILROY, SHANKLAND, HESSELBEIN, MASON, DANOU, SUBECK, HEBL, JOHNSON, POPE, BERCEAU, SINICKI, BARNES, BILLINGS, HINTZ, RIEMER, JORGENSEN, OHNSTAD, KESSLER, WACHS, CONSIDINE, DOYLE, KAHL, STUCK and YOUNG. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: recognizing June 2015 as LGBT Pride Month.

Whereas, Wisconsin has a committed history of being at the forefront of supporting equality for all its citizens; and

Whereas, in February 1982, Wisconsin made history when Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus signed the nation’s first state law protecting lesbians and gays from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations; and

Whereas, in the intervening years, tremendous advancements have been made with respect to equitable treatment of lesbians, gay men, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) persons both in Wisconsin and throughout the nation; and

Whereas, Wisconsin has elected the first openly LGBT member of the United States Senate and the Wisconsin state legislature has four openly LGBT members; and

Whereas, in June 2014, same-sex couples were legally able to marry in Wisconsin; and
Whereas, despite these advances LGBT people continue to face discrimination and LGBT youth continue to be at increased risk for bullying, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, and suicide; and

Whereas, LGBT rights and religious freedom do not have to conflict; and

Whereas, June has become a symbolic month in which LGBT people and their allies have come together in various celebrations of pride; and

Whereas, recognizing Pride Month will help foster an atmosphere of inclusion, acceptance, and celebration to the community; and

Whereas, LGBT individuals, along with their families, friends, and neighbors, will be honoring Pride Month in cities and towns across the state, including Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay, La Crosse, and Superior; and

Whereas, the month-long celebration is an opportunity for all people in the state to affirm their commitment to mutual respect and understanding; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature recognizes the month of June 2015 to be LGBT Pride Month.